

WHAT IS CLAIMED

1. A magnetic recording medium comprising:
a magnetic disk having a data zone and a CSS zone and including:
 a substrate, and
 a magnetic film formed on said substrate and
 a protective film formed thereon for the protection of said magnetic film and
 composed mainly of carbon, said protective film including a first portion overlying said CSS
 zone, and a second portion overlying said data zone,
 said first portion of said protective film being composed mainly of carbon and
 nitrogen, and
 said second portion of said protective film being composed mainly of not only carbon
 and nitrogen but also hydrogen for increasing the hardness of the protective film.